

to an investment of some \$50 billion to date, so as to permit it to shoot down ballistic missiles. They confirmed that this promising program was not receiving the funds it needs to proceed as quickly as technology would permit.

Unfortunately, to correct this shortfall, the Pentagon is actively considering terminating (either formally or de facto) the Army's important Theater High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) program. Were such an ill-advised step to be taken, it would offer proof positive of the adage that two wrongs do not make a right.

The Defense Department representatives went on to perpetrate another spectacular fraud. None mentioned that the AEGIS Option is a case in point of how the ABM Treaty is, in fact, preventing effective anti-missile systems from being developed and deployed as soon as possible.

If the dead hand of this 26-year-old accord—with a country that no longer exists—were not still governing the Clinton policy toward missile defense, there is little doubt as to what would currently be happening: The nation would be rapidly evolving its AEGIS infrastructure so as to put into place within a few years a competent, worldwide defense against shorter-range missiles (currently threatening our forces and friends overseas). Absent the ABM Treaty, moreover, this program would also afford the beginnings of a missile protection for Americans here at home for a price tag estimated to total (thanks to the sunk costs) just \$2 billion to \$3 billion, spent out over the next five years.

At this writing, Defense Secretary William Cohen and Gen. Shelton are about to appear before the Armed Services Committee. Given the velocity with which these sessions are producing dramatic changes in administration positions, perhaps these witnesses will reveal that the truth is breaking out not only with respect to the threat, but also with regard to what can be done about it.

Under no circumstances should the witnesses be allowed further to insult senators' intelligence by promoting the absurd argument that a limited national missile defense system that literally has to be built from the ground up can be brought on-line faster and cheaper than one that is largely operational, apart from some relatively minor hardware and software changes. This defies common sense. So does the line that the ABM Treaty—which nominally permits the former and explicitly prohibits the latter, sea-based anti-missile program—is having no impact on the effort to defend America against missile attack.

Whether the truth on these fronts actually emerges from the Cohen-Shelton hearing or at some future event, one thing seems clear: It will become harder and harder to lie to the American people about their vulnerability to ballistic missile attack and about the availability of near-term, affordable options for reducing that vulnerability, provided the ABM Treaty is no longer allowed to be an impediment to bringing defenses on-line. Hats off to Don Rumsfeld and his team for creating conditions under which such momentous changes may yet result in the deployment of missile defense before they are needed.

Frank J. Gaffney Jr. is the director of the Center for Security Policy and columnist for the Washington Times.

H.R. 4569, THE FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS, FY 1999

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I want this Congress to focus on a government that has spent years practicing torture on its own people. However, when you go home and turn on the evening news, good luck trying to find any story that reveals this particular human rights issue. And better luck getting this administration to pay any attention to the plight of thousands of innocent civilians.

We speak of tragedies all over the world this time of year. We speak of the struggles in Africa, Cambodia, and Burma. We reprimand China for its draconian abortion policies and illegal human organ sales. We threaten to stop international military and educational training (IMET) from Indonesia for abuses in East Timor. We even criticize longstanding allies like Turkey for its treatment of its Kurdish citizens without addressing the brutal murders carried out by the PKK, a Kurdish Marxist terrorist organization.

Unfortunately, there is one human rights issue that continues to escape the attention of this administration, some members of this Congress and the media. That issue involves the plight of the Sikhs in Punjab or Khalistan; the plight of the Kashmiris; the plight of Christians in Nagaland; and the plight of the "untouchables", the lowest caste in India's system.

Mr. Speaker, the Indian Government is one of the world's worst human rights abusers in the world. You may ask, well if that's true why doesn't the world know?

Since the 1970's, Amnesty International and other human rights groups have been barred from India. Mr. Speaker, even the Government of Cuba allows Amnesty into their country.

In fact, there are half-million Indian soldiers occupying Punjab, and another half-million troops occupying Kashmir. Since 1947, India has killed over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland; 250,000 Sikhs in Punjab from 1984–1995; and 53,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988.

For the last sixteen years, I have been coming to this well to call attention to Punjab, where the Indian military receives cash bounties for the slaughter of innocent children. And to justify their actions, they are labeled "terrorists."

According to our own State Department, India paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police for killing innocent people from 1991–1993!

Also in Punjab, Sikhs are picked up in the middle of the night only to be found floating dead in canals with their hands and feet bound together. Some Sikhs are only so fortunate, many are never found after their abduction.

Recently, the India Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) told the Supreme Court that it had confirmed nearly 1,000 cases of unidentified bodies that were cremated by the military!

And it does not get any better in Kashmir. Women, because of their Muslim beliefs, are taken out of their homes in the middle of the night and are gang-raped while their husbands are forced to watch and wait inside at gunpoint.

It was hoped that the new governments in Delhi and Punjab would stop the repression which the Indian supreme court describes as "worse than a genocide!"

Mr. Speaker, opponents will say the recent election in Punjab of a Sikh dominated coalition and the fact that an "untouchable" is now the President of India is evidence of their democratic progress.

But, I can tell you that this new government in Punjab is closely aligned with the authoritarian BJP Prime Minister Vajpayee of India and India's "untouchable" President is merely a figurehead. Mr. Speaker, would democracies continue the rampant campaign of genocide?

On July 22, 1998, Baljit Singh, A Sikh youth of Burj Dhillwan village, died of complications from torture-style brutality inflicted by the Punjab police.

Also in July of 1998, police picked up Kashmira Singh of the village of Khudiah Kalan on the pretext that they were investigating a theft. They then tortured him for 15 days. They rolled logs over his legs until he couldn't walk; they submerged him in a tub of water; and they slashed his thighs with razor blades and stuffed hot peppers into the wounds.

On April 1, 1998, Brother Luke, a Roman Catholic priest was murdered in the eastern state of Bihar. His body was found with a bullet hole through the head. He was a member of Mother Teresa's world-renowned charity organization. This is the fourth priest in 2 years that has been murdered in India.

On October 30, 1997, Reverend A.T. Thomas was found beheaded also in Bihar, apparently killed for aiding the no-caste "untouchables." Amnesty International has linked the Bihar state government to the murder of Rev. Thomas! The Catholic Bishops Conference of India has criticized the government for doing nothing to protect Catholic priests and for failing to prosecute those responsible.

On July 12, 1997, in Bombay, 33 Dalits (black untouchables) were killed by Indian police during demonstrations.

On July 8, 1997, 36 people were killed in a train bombing in Punjab. Two ministers of the Punjab Government have blamed the Punjab police. The bombing occurred a day after 9 policemen were convicted of murder!

On March 5, 1997, a death squad picked up Kashmir Singh, an opposition party member. He was thrown in a van, tortured, and murdered. Finally, his bullet-ridden body was dumped out on the roadside.

These military forces operate beyond the law with complete impunity!

Mr. Speaker, the United States should not support a government that condones widespread abuses with our hard-earned tax dollars! It is time India is held accountable for its continued violation of basic human rights!

The Sikhs, Muslims, Christians, "untouchables," and women of India are desperately looking to this Congress for help. The time has come for action, it is time for America to take a stand!

Considering all this, the President still requested \$56.5 million in development assistance for India in fiscal year 1999. That is an increase in almost \$1 million over last year.

As everyone is aware, as a result of India's recent nuclear test, the President has imposed a broad range of sanctions on India for violation of section 102(b) of the Arms Export Control Act. Also known as the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994, or more popularly,

the Glenn Amendment—it prohibits a variety of assistance and commercial transactions between the U.S. and any country if the President determines that that country—if it is a non-nuclear-weapon state—has detonated a nuclear explosive device.

India has disregarded regional and international stability by placing missiles and exploding thermonuclear weapons, fission weapons, and hydrogen bombs near the Pakistan border. Indeed, their behavior has been clearly unacceptable, and they are being properly punished. I applaud the President for his fortitude.

And, if the President continues to follow through with the current law, this should send a strong signal to the Indian Government that it is not going to be business as usual with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of helping bullies who punish their own people and threaten neighbors. India is still the 5th largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid in the world; India is the world's largest borrower from the world bank with more than \$44 billion in loans; India votes against the U.S. at the United Nations more often than any other country, except Cuba.

It does not justify sending more hard-earned tax dollars to a country that claims to be the largest democracy in the world, but obviously shares none of our most cherished values.

Democracies don't commit genocide!

Let's put the brakes on the foreign aid gravy train to India!

Ask the President not to waiver on his stance with India!

OUR U.S. CONGRESS—KOREAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STUDENT INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to call to the attention of our colleagues, Michael L. Fox, a resident of Huguenot, NY, who was my 1998 designee to participate in the U.S. Congress—Foreign National Assembly Student Intern Exchange Program.

As my nominee, Michael was one of eight American interns who were selected by Members of this body, who participated in the exchange program from July 23rd to August 8th, 1998.

This exchange program, which I initiated in 1984 with the cooperation of the Korean National Assembly, our International Relations Committee, and the U.S.I.A., has been an exciting experience for hundreds of eager young adults over the years in Korea and in the United States who have participated. The Korean National Assembly Youth Exchange Program is an attempt to foster increased relations between the United States and Korea. For the 14 years that our program has been conducted, it has been a positive experience for all participants and both governments.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fox was kind enough to report in detail his trip to Korea, a copy of which I request to be included at this point in the RECORD:

U.S. CONGRESS—KOREAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM; JULY 23—AUGUST 8, 1998

I must say that this was one of the most interesting summers of my life! Participating in this exchange program to Korea is an experience which I will cherish and remember for the rest of my life.

We started with group briefings on July 18, and soon after began to have joint meetings with the Korean Delegates so that we could get to know each other. Following three days of activities, which concluded with receptions hosted by His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Lee Hong-Koo at his residence, and the Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, and co-founder of this exchange program, Representative Benjamin Gilman, in an HIRC committee room, the American Delegation embarked for Seoul, South Korea.

During our time in the country, which totaled almost three weeks, we had meetings and briefings with various officials and government officers. Many of our discussions centered on the current Asian Economic Crisis and unification with North Korea, along with China's role and the role of the joint South Korea-Japan-North Korea hosted World Cup 2002 Games in that unification.

The culture of South Korea is very different from that in the United States, but we did find that in-roads of "Americanization" had occurred. The youth of the nation has been turning more to American ideas and culture over the past generation. McDonald's, Baskin Robbins and TGIFridays can be found on the streets of Seoul, Cheju Island, and elsewhere. While much of the culture still centers on respect for elders (even those one day older than you) and the importance of the group over the individual, these ideals, too, have been changing somewhat among those members of the present generation.

Turning to the Economic Crisis, the situation is growing critical. As Americans, I do not think that we can find it easy to understand the magnitude of these topics, living safely and comfortably within the borders of our great Nation, but over there banks and businesses are failing. Layoffs occur every day. Labor unions and unemployed workers demonstrate on the streets everyday, and buses upon buses of riot police are lined up all over Seoul. Making things worse, many of the officials and experts that we spoke to, including those from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Unification, expect that this crisis will continue for at least 3-5 more years before a complete turn-around can be expected. Newspaper articles discuss the disappearance of the middle-class. The poor are, as always, hurting. We saw people still working in rice paddies in many areas lacking sophisticated equipment or technology. The standard of living and poverty lines are much lower than those in the United States. In addition, as I toured the Hyundai plant in Ulsan, my guide informed me that although the labor unions were not aware of it yet, the Hyundai Motors plant was preparing to lay-off up to 40,000 workers! As more and more workers are laid off, the problems will be compounded.

Calls have been made for a restructuring of the government, an abolition of the Korean National Assembly, or a cut in the bureaucracy and size of the government. They are searching for measures that would bring relief and a solution to this great problem.

Americans are not favored or popular amongst some South Koreans. We were advised to be careful and aware of our surroundings at all times. While I did not feel that we were in real danger, I realized that we are being blamed for bringing IMF aid to

Korea, which is seen as a weakening force for the Won, and a target of accusation by the demonstrating workers.

Unification will be difficult under these conditions. Some estimates from CSIS and other agencies put production in North Korea at only about 25 percent of capacity. South Korea is afraid that unification would cost too much, and that it simply cannot afford to "prop-up" North Korea's economy, especially since its citizens are not used to, or prepared for, a productive life in a capitalist economy.

In spite of these grave problems, it is interesting to note that the National Assembly was not in session while we were there. It is incredible that as these dilemmas continue to mount, the governmental body of the nation was not convened and working toward solutions! The political, economic and social situation in South Korea is not good at this time.

Traveling to Panmunjom, the DMZ, and North Korea one comes to realize how lucky we are as Americans. As we entered the conference room, and North Korea, we came face-to-face with North Korean Soldiers. We come from a nation with no hostile borders, whose Capital is not (and has not been since the Civil War) within two hours or less of enemy territory and hostile invaders. We are very lucky indeed, and came to understand why unification is such an important topic on the Korean Peninsula today.

I found this trip to be very informative, exciting and fun. While learning about these crises and problems, we did find time to relax and have some fun. An important part of our experience came from developing friendships and relationships with Korean citizens we came to meet, including past Korean Delegates. We developed relationships through social and cultural activities, such as home visits, traditional Korean meals, hotel stays, and patronage of restaurants and places of entertainment. Cultural bridges were built in side trips to Ancient Palaces in, and around, Seoul, ancient cities and temples throughout the nation—such as those in Kyongju—and the viewing of traditional Korean theater and dances in the resort area of Cheju Island. The overall experience was quite enjoyable, and we came away returning to the United States with a greater understanding of the culture and way of life on the Korean Peninsula, and the problems that are being dealt with even as this essay is being read.

Despite this situation, the overall program was wonderful. I would venture to say that the program succeeded in its goal of fostering a better understanding of Korean life and culture on the part of Americans, and a better understanding of American life and culture on the part of the Korean Delegates—as became apparent at our joint de-briefing held in San Francisco, California on August 8-9, 1998. We hope to maintain the friendships which developed through the program—among the American Delegation, this year's Korean Delegation, and those whom we met, and who were so gracious to us, while in Korea.

I will never forget this experience as long as I live, and I thank Chairman Gilman, my Congressman and sponsor, for giving me the opportunity to participate this year.

I cannot stress enough how important I feel it is to continue this program in years to come. There is no better way to foster understanding among nations with different cultures than through the exchange of people and ideas. In my opinion, this is a most valuable program.